

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR

REVIEWED BY RLS DATE 10/14/82

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DAKAR, SENEGAL: AUG 16: REUTER - EMPEROR BOKASSA OF THE CENTRAL AFRICAN EMPIRE ALMOST CERTAINLY TOOK PART IN A MASSACRE OF ABOUT 100 CHILDREN IN PRISON IN BANGUI IN APRIL; AN INTER-AFRICAN COMMISSION INQUIRING INTO THE MURDERS SAID TODAY.

THE FIVE-NATION COMMISSION, SET UP AFTER THE MASSACRE WAS FIRST REPORTED BY THE LONDON-BASED HUMAN RIGHTS ORGANIZATION AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL, SAID EMPEROR BOKASSA PERSONALLY ORDERED THE KILLINGS.

YOUSSEU NDIAYE OF SENEGAL, PRESIDENT OF THE COMMISSION OF AFRICAN LAWYERS FROM SENEGAL, LIBERIA, IVORY COAST, TOGO AND RWANDA, PRESENTED THE COMMISSION'S FINDINGS AT A PRESS CONFERENCE.

THE COMMISSION FOUND THAT JANUARY RIOTS IN THE CENTRAL AFRICAN EMPIRE HAD BEEN SAVAGELY PUT DOWN BY THE COUNTRY'S SECURITY FORCES.

THE PROTESTS WERE AGAINST THE COMPULSORY PURCHASE OF SCHOOL UNIFORMS BY SCHOOLCHILDREN.

REUTER 0930

Q. Rander -
AF/C